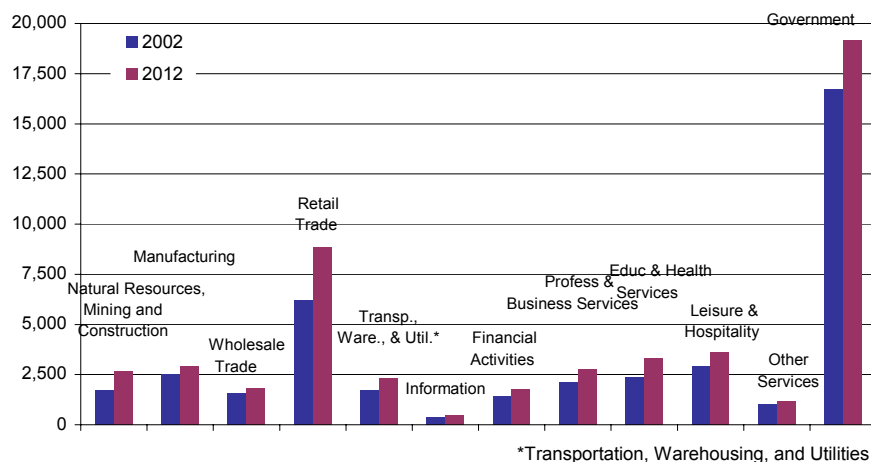


# Imperial Projection Highlights

## Industry

Nonfarm wage and salary employment in Imperial County is expected to grow at 2.5 percent annually between 2002 and 2012. The growth rate projected for Imperial is above the growth in California as a whole, which is expected to grow at about 1.8 percent annually. This growth will add 10,300 new jobs and bring Imperial's employment to 51,000 by 2012. Over 58 percent of all new nonfarm wage and salary jobs are forecasted to occur in Government (37%), Retail Trade (17%), and Educational and Health Services (6%). Government is by far the largest industry in Imperial County with future growth driven by local public education and increase in State and Federal programs.

Below is a graph of the 2002 and projected 2012 employment for major industries in Imperial.



General Merchandise Stores (9.4%) and Natural Resources, Mining and Construction (5.6%) Industry are the fastest growing major industry sectors. Other industries growing much faster than the overall county average of 2.5% percent are: Retail Trade (4.3%), Educational and Health Services (3.8%), Trade Transportation and Utilities (3.4%), and Professional and Business Services (3.1%).

## Occupations

Occupational projections for the period 2002 to 2012 forecast:

- Over 10,300 new jobs from industry growth,
- Nearly 10,160 job openings from Net Replacements,
- A combined total of almost 20,460 job openings.

The top 50 occupations with the most job openings will generate almost 65 percent of all job openings in Imperial County during the 2002-2012 period. These occupations are expected to generate over 13,250 total job openings. While these occupations are typically lower paying, entry level occupations such as Retail Salespersons, Cashiers, Combined Food Prep Workers, and Office Clerks-General, higher-skilled and higher paying occupations such as Correctional Officers and Jailers, Elementary and Secondary School Teachers, Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers, Managers, and Registered Nurses are also forecasted to have a substantial number of job openings over the ten year period.

The 38 fastest growing occupations are all expected to grow at an annual rate of 2.5 percent or more. Occupations in the Construction field make up the 14 occupations of the 38 listed. Jobs found in Health and Retail Sales fields constitute many of the fastest growing occupations. Over two-thirds of the occupations require 30 day to 1-12 months on-the-job training. A few occupations pay over \$20 per hour.

